



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION I

J.F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-2211

N62578.AR.000489
NCBC DAVISVILLE
5090.3a

August 4, 1995

Mr. Phil Otis
U.S. Department of the Navy
Northern Division - NAVFAC
10 Industrial Highway
Code 1811/PO - Mail Stop 82
Lester, PA 19113-2090

Re: Comments on the Draft Final Record of Decision for Sites 5 & 8 at Naval Construction Battalion Center, RI

Dear Mr. Otis:

Pursuant to § 7.6 of the NCBC Federal Facility Agreement (FFA), please find attached the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) comments on the above referenced document.

The Navy has satisfactorily addressed all EPA comments submitted in a comment letter June 13, 1995. However, I have attached some additional comments. The ROD signature authority has recently been delegated from the RA's office to the Division Director, so Linda Murphy will be signing this ROD.

In order to speed up the review process, please fax me just the redlined pages for our quick review of the wording changes.

I look forward to discussing these comments at your earliest convenience. Please contact me at (617) 573-5736.

Sincerely,

Christine A.P. Williams
Remedial Project Manager
Federal Facilities Superfund Section

Attachment

cc: Judy Graham, RIDEM
Lou Fayan, NCBC
Kristen Conroy, EPA
Bob DiBiccàro, EPA
Jayne Michaud, EPA



EPA Comments on the Draft-Final ROD for Sites 5 & 8

1. Declaration:

a. p. i, Statement of Basis and Purpose, revise second paragraph to read:

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management concurs with the no action decision for the soils operable unit.

b. p. i, Declaration Statement, line 4--After "NCP" delete the rest of the sentence and insert the following:

since this no action decision does not result in hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants remaining at the sites above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure, a five-year review of this action is not required.

c. p. ii, insert above the signature line:

U.S. Department of the Navy

d. p. iii, insert above the signature line:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

e. p. iii, replace John DeVillars as EPA signatory with:

Linda M. Murphy
Director, Waste Management Division

2. Page 9, third paragraph and other references to the ground water remedial investigation; replace "remedial investigation" with "inorganic background study".

3. Pages 9-10, Scope and Role of Response Action, line 2--after the words "following sections", delete the rest of the paragraph and insert the following:

the Navy has determined that no CERCLA remedial action is required at the Sites 5 and 8 soils operable unit. The levels of contaminants in the soils do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment.

4. Page 10, Site 05, 1st sentence; insert abbreviation "(ppm)" at the end of the sentence.

5. pg 18, 2nd para. line 7. Delete the extraneous word "so".
6. pg 18, last sentence. Delete the word "even".
7. pg 20, 4th para. Misspelled raptors (it is typed as "raptures"). Run a global search and correction for this word.

8. Page 20, 5th para; rewrite 1st sentence to read " HQ values greater than 1.0 indicate that the TRV is exceeded, while values below 1.0 reflect a non-exceedance. Misspelled exceedance in the text.

9. Page 21, 5th paragraph; delete the words "Site 05 evidences no significant threat" and insert the following:

the levels of contaminants in the soils at Site 05 do not pose an unacceptable risk"

10. Page 21, 6th paragraph; delete the words "Site 08 evidences no significant threat" and insert the following:

the levels of contaminants in the soils at Site 08 do not pose an unacceptable risk"

11. Page 23, 2nd para, 2nd sent; insert at end of sentence: "...but since the risk estimates were below risk levels of concern at the maximum concentrations, EPA did not require the average values to be recalculated."

12. Page 24 2nd para; Raptors is misspelled.

13. Page 24, fourth paragraph; Site 05 should be Site 08 in the last sentence.

14. Page 25, Section VII; delete the second sentence and insert the following--

No construction or monitoring activities will be undertaken.

15. Tables A-3 through A-6. Total risk values were not rounded to significant figures as they were in the summary tables for Site 8.

Appendix B, Responsiveness Summary

16. Page 1, Overview, para. 1; revise the first sentence to read as follows:

In the Proposed Plan issued for public comment in May 1995, the Navy proposed a No Action alternative for the soils at Sites 05 and 08.

17. The Response to the North Kingstown's second comment should

also include the following sentence, "The Navy will also keep the public informed of the results of the 5-year reviews with press releases and fact sheets mailed out to the general public and with a fact sheet kept at the information repository and in the Administrative Record."

18. Response to Town of North Kingstown Written Comment #5. Suggest the Navy revises sentence 1 as follows: Replace bracketed words with underlined-- "[Based on] The lack of public comment received on the No Action Proposed Plan for the soils operable unit [,it is assumed] indicated that sufficient evidence of protectiveness was provided to the public." Also, the Navy's response could be improved if they reiterate the public notice procedure, i.e., notification of public comment period and meetings are published in the local newspaper, the RAB serves as the community liaison, and other outreach techniques.

19. Narragansett Indian Tribe Written Comment 1. The Navy's Response missed the point of the Tribe's comment and is comes across as condescending. Delete the last sentence of para. 1, restate the intended point without the negative implications, such as, "While the Navy is aware of the potential impacts of deed restrictions on property transfer, at times the most practicable alternative is the implementation of site use restrictions based on the balancing of trade-offs among alternatives that is conducted during the remedy selection process. At these sites the Navy is continuing site investigations on the ground water and has not implemented any site use restrictions."

20. Page 18, Administrative Record; add 8406: Fact sheet No. 4, Installation Restoration Program, Modification to Federal Facility Agreement, March 1995. Renumber the remaining 2 entries for this break.

21. Page 19, Administrative Record; add 8911, Letter to Ms Marilyn Powers, Northern division, from Ms. Christine Williams, EPA, re: Draft CRP dated November 1993, NCBC, March 31, 1994.

22. Page 19, Administrative Record; add 8912, Letter to Mr Robert Krivinskas, Northern division, from Ms. Christine Williams, EPA, re: Review of Proposed Changes to Draft CRP dated November 1993, NCBC, March 9, 1995.

23. Page 19, Administrative Record; add 8913, Letter to Mr Robert Krivinskas, Northern division, from Ms. Christine Williams, EPA, re: Review of Redlined CRP dated 16 May, NCBC, June 14, 1995.

24. Page 20, Administrative Record; update 1911 to read "U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Revised Interim Soil Lead Guidance for CERCLA Sites and RCRA Corrective Action Facilities. OSWER Directive 9355.4-12"

25. Page 21, Administrative Record; add 101102 to read, "Modification #1 to Section 14.12 of the Federal Facility Agreement, Deadlines and Schedules for Sites 1-15 and Calf Pasture Point Munitions Bunkers, 17 April 1995".

26. Page 21, Administrative Record; add 101103 to read, "Consensus Statement for Deadlines and Schedule at Site 9, 1 August 1995".